



Genes and Addiction
NIDA Center for GWAS in Outbred Rats

University of California, San Diego
University of Michigan
University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center
University of Buffalo
Wake Forest School of Medicine



Stipends

Stipends (\$4K undergrad; \$2K high school) are based on academic excellence and research potential. Students are provided lab space to work on projects in Center sites. Mentoring and housing are provided for ten weeks in the summer.



NIDA Center Training Focus

The Center is training the next generation of scientists to investigate the genetics of drug abuse. 2016 participants came from Duke, U. of Illinois, U. of Michigan, Northwestern, U. of Chicago, & Hartford Union High School.



Applicants

REHU participants are selected from a nationwide pool of applicants. REHU students learn about the relationship between genetic endowment, environmental factors, and biological mechanisms that increase addiction vulnerability of a model organism, the rat.

2017 Genes and Addictive Behavior REHU Program

research experiences for high school and undergraduate students

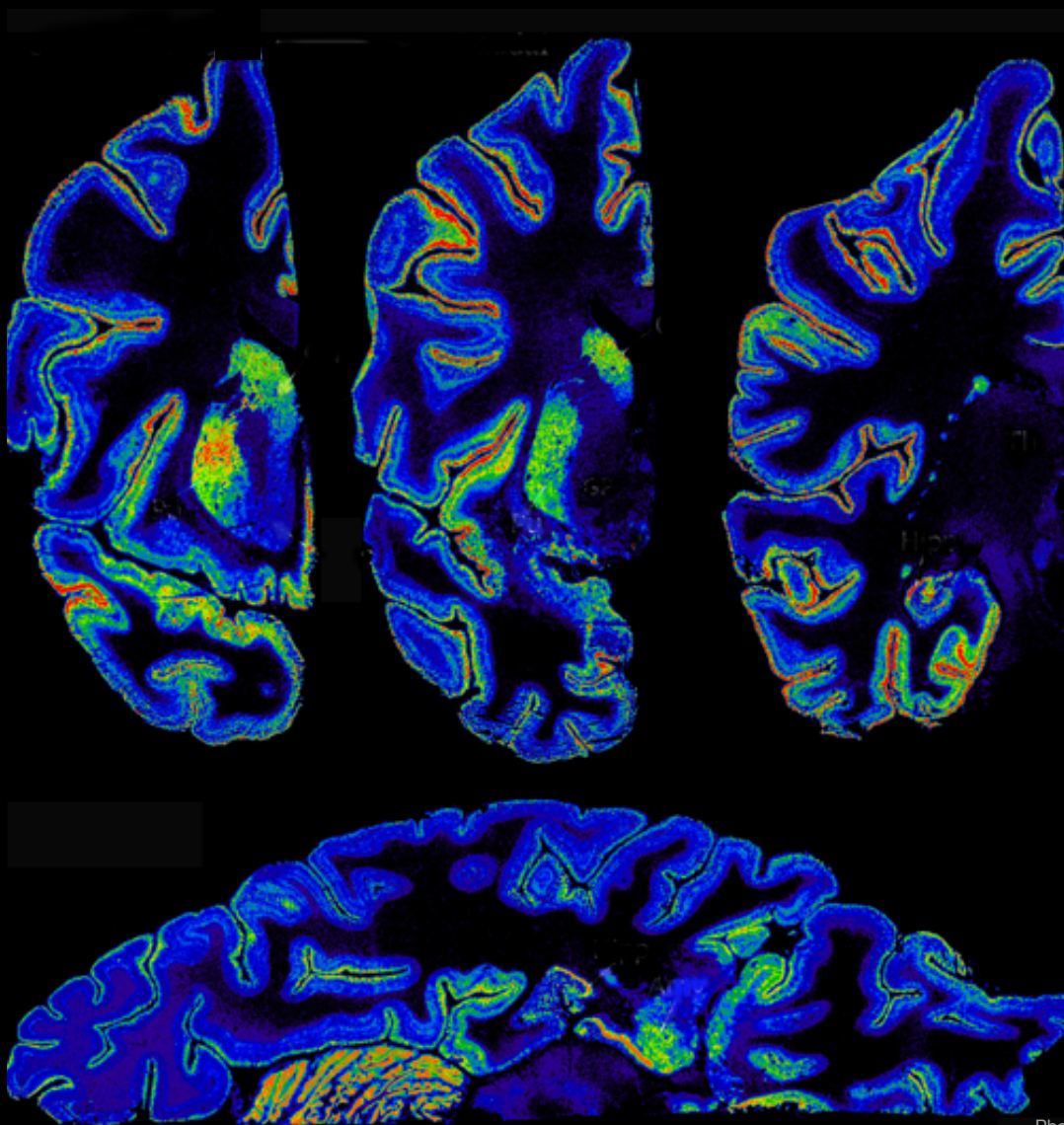


Photo: Dr. Yasmin Hurd

www.ratgenes.org





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The *NIDA Center for GWAS in Outbred Rats* seeks high school and college students for **Research Experiences for High School and Undergraduate (REHU)** projects. The goal is to encourage research training for future STEM-related careers. The REHU program is located at Center research sites in San Diego, Ann Arbor, Memphis, Buffalo, and Winston-Salem. Stipends are \$2,000 for high school students and \$4,000 for college students attending the summer quarter: June 12 - August 18, 2017. Offers for participation in the program will be made based on application reviews, interviews, academic excellence, motivation, scientific potential, and career goals aligned with Center projects. Besides stipends, housing and travel support, if needed, will be provided. Participants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and be enrolled in an accredited high school or undergraduate degree program with a concentration in the biological, physical, quantitative, or computational sciences. Information about the NIDA Center is at www.ratgenes.org.

If selected, high school and college students will be matched with faculty researchers and lab associates who will mentor REHU activities. There will be a mid-summer working lunch and informal journal club to discuss research projects and papers. At the conclusion of the REHU program, students will produce a written report and present research findings at a REHU symposium.

The NIDA Center is led by the Principal Investigator Professor Abraham Palmer at the University of California, San Diego, but the team also includes collaborating investigators at the University of Michigan, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, the University of Buffalo, and the Wake Forest School of Medicine. Expertise is also provided by scientists at the University of Chicago. Center research projects are about genes and behavior. There is a primary focus on the genetics of drug abuse. Investigations include projects about incentive salience, socially-acquired nicotine self-administration, association between behavioral regulation and cocaine cue preference, and integration of genome wide association studies (GWAS) and expression quantitative traits (eQTL) data. Depending on the project, some REHU students may use GWAS applications and core sequencing technologies. Other participants may work with heterogeneous stock rat populations. There will be access to athletic facilities and social and cultural events on campus.

Deadline for receipt of all application materials is **February 6, 2017**. To apply please use the 2017 application form. Confidential letters of recommendation and official school transcripts are required.

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